

Dead Animal Disposal Washington Statutes and Regulations

The following table lists Washington statutes and rules that control aspects of the disposal of dead animals, including solid waste, manure, and air pollution control requirements. Special notation is indicated for statutes affected by Substitute Senate Bill 5602 of 2005.

RCW	WAC	Lead Agencies	Originally Adopted
7.48.140, Public nuisances enumerated (Deposit of any dead animal or offal in any manner that could render water unwholesome or otherwise to the prejudice of others is prohibited)		Local government	1881
43.20.050 authorizes rules	246-203-120, Disposal of garbage, trash, rubbish, offal, dead animals, and manure (Dead animals must be disposed of within 24 hours by burial 2 ft. deep and 100 ft. from well or surface water, or by incineration)	State Board of Health (SBOH) Local government	1960
18.92.030 & 18.92.260 authorize rules	246-933-320, General requirements for veterinary medical facilities (Dispose of dead animals in compliance with state and local requirements)	Board of Veterinary Medicine Dept. of Health (DOH)	1991
43.20.050 authorizes rules	246-290-135, Public Water Supplies, Source water protection (Sanitary control area 100 ft. around well & 200 ft. around spring)	SBOH DOH Local governments	1993

16.68, Disposal of Dead Animals (Animal means meat food animal; if animal died from disease must bury 3 ft. deep; licensing of renderers and collectors)		Washington State Dept. of Agriculture (WSDA)	1949
16.36.040 & 16.36.50 authorize rules	16-30-030, Restricted Feedlots, Conditions of permit (operator of Category 1 restricted feedlot must dispose of dead animals according to law)	WSDA	1983
Chapter 90.64, Livestock [formerly Dairy] Nutrient Management (Revised by SSB5602 ; manure and dead animal management for animal feeding operations and dairies; oversight committee; SBOH report on clarifying rules for dead animal disposal)		WSDA Ecology SBOH	1993 Revised in 2005 by SSB5602
Chapter 70.95, Solid Waste Management – Reduction and Recycling (Comprehensive statute regarding solid waste handling and disposal; incineration in enclosed device using controlled flame combustion; amended by SSB5602 to require guidelines for composting animal carcasses)		Ecology	1969
70.95 authorizes rules	Chapter 173-304, Minimum Functional Standards for Solid Waste Handling	Ecology	1985
70.95 authorizes rules	Chapter 173-350, Solid Waste Handling Standards (Agricultural waste includes dead animal carcasses collectively in excess of 15 pounds; special provisions for composting agricultural waste; incineration provisions require enclosed device and controlled flame combustion)	Ecology	2003

Chapter 70.95D, Solid Waste Incinerator and Landfill Operators (Solid waste facility operator certification)		Ecology	1989
Chapter 70.95K, Biomedical Waste (Handling and treatment of biomedical waste; animal waste includes animal carcasses and parts known to be infected or have been inoculated with human pathogenic microorganisms)		DOH Ecology Local Health Agencies	1992
70.95D authorizes rules	173-300-180, Incineration of biomedical and medical waste (Must be conducted under sufficient burning conditions to reduce all combustible material to non-visible form)	Ecology	1991
Chapter 70.94, Washington Clean Air Act (comprehensive statute regarding air pollution control; includes local Air Pollution Control Authorities; prohibits outdoor burning of garbage & dead animals)		Ecology Local governments	1967
70.94 authorizes rules	Chapter 173-400, General Regulations for Air Pollution Sources (Includes requirements for incinerators)	Ecology	1976
77.12.047 & 90.56.110 authorize rules	232-12-275, Wildlife rehabilitation permits (Disposal of dead wildlife, except oiled birds, must be by deposit at WSU or permitted research project; burial, incineration, rendering. Disposal of oiled dead birds requires WDFW approval.)	WDFW	1996
77.12.047 authorizes rules	232-12-287, Possession of dead wildlife (prohibited)	WDFW	1981